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## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

- 1. (Currently Amended) The compound (-) tenatoprazole, or (-) 5 methoxy 2-[[(4-methoxy 3,5-dimethyl 2-pyridyl)methyl]sulfinyl]imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine, or one of its salts, substantially free of the (+) enantiomer.
- 2. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition[[,]] comprising (-) tenatoprazole, or (-)-5-methoxy-2-[[(4-methoxy-3,5-dimethyl-2-pyridyl)methyl]sulfinyl]imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients or substrates.
- 3. (Currently Amended) A <u>The pharmaceutical</u> composition according to claim 2, wherein the (-) tenatoprazole is in the form a pharmaceutically acceptable salt selected from the group consisting of alkaline and earth-alkaline metal salts.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A <u>The pharmaceutical</u> composition according to claim 3, wherein the (-) tenatoprazole is in the salt form a pharmaceutically acceptable salt selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium, lithium, magnesium and calcium salts.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A <u>The pharmaceutical</u> composition according to <del>any</del> one of claims 2 to 4 claim 2, comprising <u>a</u> unitary <u>dose comprising</u> doses containing from <u>about 10 mg</u> to <u>about 80 mg</u> of active principle.
- 6. (Currently Amended) A <u>The pharmaceutical</u> composition according to claim 2, <u>further</u> comprising (-) tenatoprazole in combination with one or more antibiotics.

## Claims 7-13 (Canceled)

- 14. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, comprising a unitary dose comprising from about 10 mg to about 80 mg of active principle.
- 15. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 4, comprising a unitary dose comprising from about 10 mg to 80 mg of active principle.
- 16. (New) A method of treatment of digestive diseases and conditions comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 17. (New) A method of treatment according to claim 16, wherein the digestive diseases and conditions are selected from the group consisisting of Barrett's syndrome, Zollinger-Ellison syndrome, atypical and oesophageal symptoms of gastro-oesophageal reflux, and digestive bleeding refractory to other proton pump inhibitors (PPIs).
- 18. (New) A method for the treatment of digestive diseases and conditions comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising (-) tenatoprazole or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients or substrates.
- 19. (New) A method of treatment according to claim 18, wherein the digestive diseases and conditions are selected from the group consisisting of Barrett's syndrome, Zollinger-Ellison syndrome, atypical and oesophageal symptoms of gastro-oesophageal reflux, and digestive bleeding refractory to other proton pump inhibitors (PPIs).
- 20. (New) A method of treatment of an ulcer resulting from an infection by Helicobacter pylori comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount

of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 21. (New) A method of treatment of an ulcer resulting from an infection by Helicobacter pylori comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising (-) tenatoprazole or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients or substrates.
- 22. (New) A method of treating or preventing the relapse of oesophagitis comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising (-) tenatoprazole or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients or substrates.
- 23. (New) A method of treating or preventing the relapse of oesophagitis comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
- 24. (New) A method for the treatment of digestive diseases and conditions according to claim 16, wherein the effective amount of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer exhibits improved pharmacokinetic properties.
- 25. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is administered orally.
- 26. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is administered via a parenteral solution.
- 27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the oral administration is via tablet, capsule or oral suspension or oral emulsion.

- 28. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the parenteral administration is via an intravenous solution.
- 29. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the parenteral solution comprises a tenatoprazole salt and a pharmaceutically acceptable substrate.
- 30. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer is administered in an amount of about 10 mg to about 120 mg per day.
- 31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer is administered in an amount of about 10 mg to about 80 mg per day.
- 32. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer is administered once per day.
- 33. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer is administered once per day for a period of about four to about twelve weeks.
- 34. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer is administered first via an intravenous route and subsequently via an oral route.
- 35. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the tablet is administered once per week and wherein the tablet comprises about 60 mg to about 90 mg of (-) tenatoprazole substantially free of the (+) enantiomer
- 36. (New) A combination therapy for the treatment of digestive disease and conditions comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of (-) tenatoprazole substantially

free of the (+) enantiomer or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a second agent selected from the group consisting of a proton pump inhibitor (PPI).

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the proton pump inhibitor (PPI) is selected from the group consisting of omeprazole, rabeprazole, pantoprazole, and lansoprazole.